

HB05653 A BILL IMPOSING A PUNITIVE TAX ON PERSONAL AMMUNITION

Committee members

I am a senior citizen and resident of Prospect, CT. I oppose the proposed legislation to add more tax on the purchase of ammunition, even if it is to be used for “gun violence” education purposes.

The administration is simply targeting the law-abiding citizens who own firearms for both personal safety and recreational purposes. You are punishing us for the sins of others, criminals who you fail to remove from society for an appropriate amount of time. You are punishing us because your system allows felons to be released and then those people go out and use firearms, or other weapons to commit crime. You do not attempt to hold those people responsible.

The numbers of active-duty police officers have declined dramatically, to levels not seen since the 1990s. This means that there are fewer law-enforcement personnel available to protect the public. You are doing this at a time when the vast majority of residents feel less safe, and not less safe from the over 300,000 permit holders, but from criminals.

You are attempting to make it more expensive for those who wish to become more proficient in the safe handling of a firearm by imposing basically a 20% tax on smaller 22 caliber handguns and on popular 9 millimeter. You should make it easier for people to train, learn gun safety and become more proficient in hitting their target. I would think that you would like to prevent another disastrous home invasion as made the headlines in 2007.

You are attempting to make it more expensive at a time when perhaps residents may simply need to be more proficient. Ukraine, which had some restrictions, found itself with a population that forgot how to handle a weapon and needed retraining. Would the casualty rate be lower if the citizens had been able to practice?

You argue for gun safety, but make practicing more expensive and perhaps for many, a difficult choice if the disposable income is limited, as is mine.

You should look at, and correct the underlying causes of violence and less on the inanimate object.

Cordially